United Nations E/CN.5/2005/L.3

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
15 February 2005

Original: English

Commission for Social Development
Forty-third session
9-18 February 2005
Agenda item 3 (b)
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

Austria, Belgium,* Cyprus,* Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia,* Finland,* France, Germany, Greece,* Hungary,* Ireland,* Italy, Latvia,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Malta, Netherlands,* Poland,* Portugal,* Slovakia,* Slovenia*, Spain, Sweden* and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:* draft resolution

Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The Economic and Social Council,*

"*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, 56/168 of 19 December 2001, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 58/132 of 22 December 2003 and 59/198 of 20 December 2004,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 2002/26 of 24 July 2002 and 2004/15 of 21 July 2004 on further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of the human rights of persons with disabilities,

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

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"*Encouraged* by the elaboration of a convention carried out in the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities,

"*Mindful* of the need to adopt and implement effective strategies and policies to promote the rights and the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in economic, social, cultural and political life on the basis of equality in order to achieve a society for all,

"*Noting with satisfaction* that the Standard Rules on the Equalization of the Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities play an increasingly important role in the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities,

"*Recalling* General Assembly decision 59/521 of 20 December 2004, whereby the Assembly decided to postpone consideration of the issue of the proposed supplement to the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[1] until its sixty-first session, at the latest, and requested the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development to take into account the general ideas contained in the proposed supplement to the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities in the accomplishment of her mandate,

"1. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development, and takes note of her report;[2]

"2. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to take practical action to create greater awareness and support for the further implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities;

"3. *Invites* the relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights treaty bodies, within their respective mandates, and urges the regional commissions, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities, to work closely with the United Nations programme on persons with disabilities to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, including activities at the field level, by sharing knowledge, experiences, results and recommendations concerning persons with disabilities;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen and improve mechanisms for consultation, the exchange of information and coordination, as appropriate, and the active participation of the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and related organizations to further the implementation of the Standard Rules;

[1] E/CN.5/2002/4, annex.
[2] E/CN.5/2005/5.

"5. *Encourages* Governments and the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, to enhance cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities and other organizations concerned with disability issues in order to implement the Standard Rules in an effective and coordinated manner, and invites multilateral development agencies to pay due attention to disability-related human rights issues in connection with the projects they fund;

"6. *Also encourages* Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability in order to support the activities of the Special Rapporteur as well as new and expanded initiatives to strengthen national capacities for equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities;

"7. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur through 31 December 2008 to further the promotion and monitoring of the Standard Rules in accordance with the provisions set down in section 4 of the Standard Rules, including the human rights dimensions of disability, while taking into account the general ideas contained in the proposed supplement to the Standard Rules[1] in the accomplishment of her mandate;

"8. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur to continue to participate in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities;

"9. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur, to submit an annual report on the monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules to the Commission for Social Development."